

Please amend the Application as follows.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended): The thermoplastic polyurethane elastomer prepared in accordance with the process of Claim 4 Z.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (New): A continuous process of preparing a thermoplastic polyurethane elastomer consisting of:

- (i) forming a prepolymer, at a temperature of 130°C to 250°C, in a reactor selected from the group consisting of a stirred tube reactor and at least one static mixer, by introducing into said reactor,
  - A) at least one polyether diol having a number average molecular weight (Mn) of 450 to 10,000, and 1.8 to 2.2 Zerewitinoff active hydrogen atoms on average, said polyether diol being preheated to a temperature of 130°C to 250°C prior to introducing said polyether diol into said reactor,
  - B) at least one organic diisocyanate, said organic diisocyanate being preheated to a temperature of 50°C to 250°C prior to introducing said organic diisocyanate into said reactor,
    - 10 to 1000 ppm in relation to A) of tin dioctoate as a catalyst, and
    - optionally at least one auxiliary substance; and
- (ii) reacting, in an extruder at a temperature of 130°C to 250°C, said prepolymer with,
  - C) 1,4-di-(2,2'-hydroxyethyl)-hydroquinone, the 1,4-di-(2,2'-hydroxyethyl)-hydroquinone being preheated to a temperature

of 130°C to 250°C prior to introducing the 1,4-di-(2,2'-hydroxyethyl)-hydroquinone into said extruder,  
optionally in the presence of at least one auxiliary substance,  
thereby forming said thermoplastic polyurethane elastomer,  
with the proviso that the NCO/OH ratio of the reactants A), B) and C) is 0.85 to 1.2,  
and said thermoplastic polyurethane has a glass transition temperature (T<sub>g</sub>) below 50°C.

8. (New): The continuous process of Claim 7 wherein said reactor of step (i) comprises at least two static mixers, said static mixers being arranged in series.

9. (New): The continuous process of Claim 7 wherein said auxiliary substance is selected from the group consisting of dyes, pigments, flame proofing agents, reinforcing agents, hydrolysis stabilizers, light stabilizers, heat stabilizers, softeners, anti-blocking agents, lubricants, mold-release agents, fungicides, bactericides, inorganic fillers, organic fillers, thermoplastic polymers and combinations thereof.

10. (New): The continuous process of Claim 7 wherein steps (i) and (ii) together have a total reaction time of from 0.3 to 3 minutes.

11. (New): The continuous process of Claim 10 wherein said total reaction time is 0.5 to 2 minutes.